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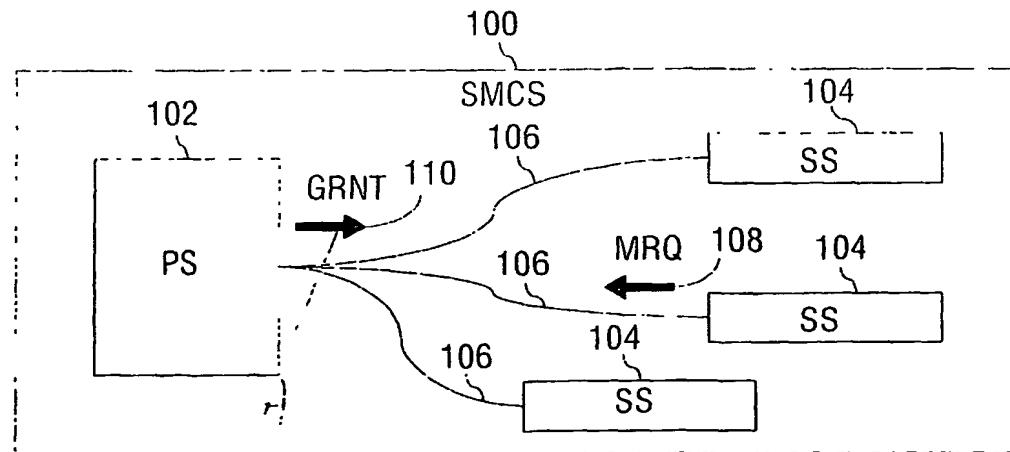
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## Declaration under Rule 4.17:

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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ACCESS REQUESTS MERGING IN A SHARED MEDIUM COMMUNICATION SYSTEM



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(57) Abstract: In a shared medium communication system (100), a common measure for avoiding collisions of application data is a request grant mechanism. Secondary stations (104) contending for upstream bandwidth send requests on a shared medium (106) that are each answered by a grant (110) from the primary station (102). The efficiency of such a system can be improved if at least two access requests are merged into a multi-request (108).

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SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA,  
GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

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*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
**IPC 7 H04L12/28 H04L12/56**

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

**IPC 7 H04L**

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	LELIGOU H-C ET AL: "Hardware implementation of multimedia driven HFC MAC protocol". 10TH MEDITERRANEAN ELECTROTECHNICAL CONFERENCE 2000, vol. 1, 29 May 2000 (2000-05-29), pages 273-276, XP010518871 the whole document	13
A	EP 1 223 714 A (ERICSSON TELEFON AB L M) 17 July 2002 (2002-07-17) abstract column 7, line 1 - column 9, line 26 column 11, line 42 - line 56	1-12
A	EP 0 503 212 A (IBM) 16 September 1992 (1992-09-16) abstract claim 1	1-13

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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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- \*&\* document member of the same patent family

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## Information on patent family members

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
EP 1223714	A	17-07-2002	US EP	2002095684 A1 1223714 A2		18-07-2002 17-07-2002
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